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bags for containing the charge of potassium cyanide. This material permits the reaction to begin immediately, whereas the paper bag might cause some delay.

In a very large room where a large quantity of the cyanide must be used, he suggests the following method, which will generate the gas more slowly and obviate the danger from violent ebullition and heat production which may result where a large quantity of the salt is dropped at once into the acid.

"The process consists in placing the salt with a little water in a porcelain cask of sufficient capacity, and the sulphuric acid conveniently diluted in another cask which has a faucet. Place a porcelain or enameled iron vessel in the mouth of the first cask, holding it in place by wires, giving it a slight inclination, so that the liquid poured into it will run into the interior of the cask; place the cask containing the sulphuric acid upon the table so that the faucet will be in the air; place the second cask upon the floor so that the vessel attached to its mouth will be just beneath the faucet. Having prepared everything in this way and the time comes to verify the reaction, calmly turn the faucet so that the solution of sulphuric acid will fall on the small vessel and run into the cask containing the cyanide. It is easily understood that by using this artifice there will be plenty of time to escape from the action of the gas and to complete the operation with calmness and surety."

Doctor Lopez says further that the gas constitutes "an estimable agent for the disinfection of railroad cars, especially against the propagation of yellow fever." He also thinks the method particularly applicable for the destruction of animals and insects on board ships, because of the ease with which a ship can be isolated from other habitations.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

Summary of work in Chinatown for the week ended November 21.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., *November 23, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Following is record of work in Chinatown for week ended November 21:

Buildings reinspected	175
Rooms	1,348
Persons inspected	1,627
Sick	31
Sick prescribed for at Oriental Dispensary	19
Dead examined	9
Necropsies	3
Rats examined bacteriologically	26
Number showing pest infection	0
Places limed and disinfected	877
Times streets swept	2
Sewers flushed	16

Notices served to abate plumbing nuisances	10
Plumbing nuisances abated	7
Undergoing abatement	18
Total number of plumbing inspections	119

BLUE.

Transactions on account of yellow fever at Laredo and San Antonio.

AUSTIN.

AUSTIN, TEX., *November 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

On account of Richardson familiar with conditions in San Antonio, I would like to see him remain there for present if does not interfere with your plans.

GEO. R. TABOR,
State Health Officer.

HOUSTON.

HOUSTON, TEX., *November 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

State and local quarantines against San Antonio raised. Detention camps around Houston discontinued. No restrictions upon traffic from there.

EBERSOLE.

LAREDO.

LAREDO, TEX., *November 18, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases, 10; old cases, 6; total reported to-day, 16; deaths, 2; 63 houses disinfected with 161 rooms; 420 containers, 160 excavations, 14 tanks, 7 wells, and 77 premises oiled; 146 premises inspected, 31 barrels of crude oil sprinkled on vacant lots and intervening streets, covering 66 city blocks. Maximum temperature 57°, minimum 42°. Cannel reports 1 new case, Minera reports no new cases, 1 death. Nuevo Laredo reports nothing new. Additional officers recommended in telegram of November 11 are not now necessary. Tabor sent for additional physicians who arrived here last Saturday. The volunteer inspection service is still in active operation and giving good results. The favorable change in the weather and the work being done make me hope the epidemic may soon be controlled.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *November 19, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases, 17; old cases, 2; total reported to-day, 19; deaths, 2; 98 houses disinfected, with 276 rooms; 538 containers, 9 premises, 85 excavations, 6 tanks, and 13 wells oiled; 156 premises inspected; 3 faucets put in barrels; 12,000 square feet of standing water oiled; 25 barrels crude oil sprinkled on vacant lots and intervening streets covering 73 city blocks. Maximum temperature, 52°; minimum, 33°. Cannel, Minera, and Nuevo Laredo report nothing new. Considerable opposition encountered in disinfection on account of cool weather.

GUITERAS.